



Docket No.: 57454-309

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Shigeki TOMISHIMA

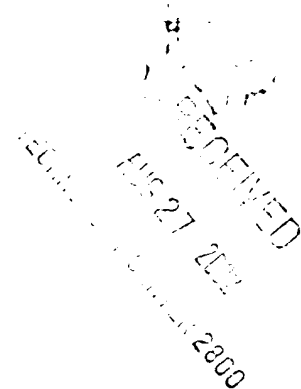
Serial No.: 09 996,574

Filed: November 30, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 2826

Examiner: V.A. Mandala



RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 26, 2002 please enter the following.

Election is required to one among three purported species of invention, namely, Species I (Figs. 1-13), Species II (Fig. 14) and Species III (Fig. 15). Applicant herein elects the claims of Species I, currently consisting of claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-11.

Applicant takes this opportunity to correct the record. Although the Examiner has classified Species II and III as being directed to Figs. 14 and 15, respectively, this is not correct. In fact, no claims directed to Figs. 14 and 15 currently are in this application. There is a Fig. 16, however, to which claims 3 and 8 are directed.

Accordingly, the election requirement is traversed; claims 1-11 should all be examined as they are encompassed by elected species I.

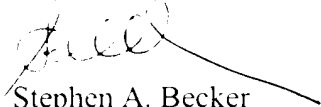
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

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extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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